

When the EDC opened its doors in 1993, St. Charles County had a total labor force of 132,602, total population of 232,360, and total assessed valuation of less than \$2 billion.

Thanks to the efforts of the EDC and a myriad of organizations and individuals in St. Charles County, today the area has a total labor force of 189,862, total population of nearly 350,000, and total assessed valuation of more than \$7 billion.

Local community leaders in business and government along with State and Federal officials helped to foster the development and dynamic 15-year track record of the EDC's business incubator and other specialized business services.

The tremendous impact and importance of the Economic Development Center's small business incubator facility will certainly continue to grow successful businesses, well-paying local jobs, the expanding local tax base, and the exceptional quality of life enjoyed in St. Charles County, MO.●

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT DOOLEY

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, since his college graduation from Quincy University in 1982, Mr. Robert Dooley has been teaching high school and middle school band and vocal music at Clark County R-1 High School. Throughout his teaching career, Mr. Dooley has instructed 2,823 students in band alone at the Clark County R-1 High School. In addition, Mr. Dooley has brought together over 150 parents and volunteers to bolster the Fine Arts Booster Organization in Clark County, which has fundraised, supported, and made possible the fine arts department in Clark County.

Clark County R-1 School has one of the finest music and band programs in the State of Missouri. In 2006 Mr. Dooley was named Kiwanis Club Teacher of the Year and received the Missouri Association of Rural Education Outstanding Rural Secondary Teacher of the Year Award. In June 2008, the Marching Indians will be traveling to Hawaii to march in the King Kamehameha Parade and will perform at Pearl Harbor aboard the USS *Missouri*. These achievements are due largely to Mr. Robert Dooley's commitment to excellence in teaching and inspiring the young musicians in Clark County.

Having a strong school system is a strong asset for any community. Mr. Dooley's talents and achievements in teaching at Clark County R-1 School have added great value to the Clark County R-1 School district and the lives of the children and families in that community. ●

ARTHUR LYONS: IN MEMORIAM

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I wish to honor and share with my colleagues the memory of a very special man, Arthur Lyons of Palm Springs, who died March 21, 2008. He was 62 years old.

Arthur Lyons was a man of many talents and will be fondly remembered for his groundbreaking work with film noir cinema, his success as an author, his dedication to the city of Palm Springs, and his love for the environment.

Arthur was born on January 5, 1946, in Los Angeles, CA. His family moved to Palm Springs when Arthur was 11. After graduating from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 1967, Arthur tapped into his lifelong passion for film noir and began writing as a novelist, a screenwriter for Universal Studios, and as a cofounder of the Writers Conference, among other projects.

Arthur wrote his first novel, "The Dead Are Discreet", in 1974 and went on to author 23 more books, many of them mystery novels, including the successful Jacob Ashe detective series. His nonfiction sensation, "Death on the Cheap: The Lost B Movies of Film Noir", reflected his interest in film noir cinema, the traditional Hollywood crime dramas of the 1940s and 1950s. After writing crime novels for over 25 years, Arthur partnered with Craig Prater in 2001 to launch the Palm Springs Film Noir Festival—one of the first such festivals in the Nation. A man of unbridled enthusiasm for the film noir style, Arthur would encourage attendees to dress up in mobster-style clothing that was typical of that Hollywood era.

A member of the Palm Springs City Council from 1992 to 1995, Arthur was an advocate of energy deregulation in California and helped create Palm Springs Energy Services. During his time on the city council, Arthur also helped to create Palm Springs Villagefest, a street fair held every Thursday that hosts food booths, a certified farmer's market, and craft and artisan booths. In recognition of his positive contributions to the Palm Springs community, Arthur was honored with the 287th Golden Palm Star on May 30, 2007.

Those who knew Arthur Lyons recognized him as a uniquely passionate and brilliant man. He took pride in promoting causes that he held close to his heart. His work as an author, screenwriter, director, and elected official will be remembered fondly by all those whose lives he touched. He will be deeply missed.

Arthur is survived by his wife Barbara Lyons and his uncle David Lyons.●

RECOGNIZING THE BAY AREA GREEN BUSINESS PROGRAM

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to recognize the 10th anniversary of the Bay Area Green Business Program in Contra Costa County, the Contra Costa Green Business Program.

Founded in 1998, the Contra Costa Green Business Program was one of the first green business programs to be es-

tablished in the nine-county Bay area region. Composed of a partnership between local, regional, State, and Federal Government agencies and utilities, the Bay Area's Green Business Programs help local businesses throughout the Bay area proactively conserve resources, prevent pollution, and minimize waste.

Californians have always led the way in fighting for a clean environment. I applaud the Contra Costa Green Business Program for strengthening and sustaining the quality of the environment in the county through a collaborative partnership of public and private organizations that encourages, enables, and recognizes businesses taking action to prevent pollution and conserve resources.

Breaking with the tradition of environmental initiatives targeting big businesses, the Contra Costa Green Business Program offers small- to medium-sized businesses a complete environmental guide, scaled to their operations, for conserving energy and water, reducing waste, preventing pollution, and complying with environmental regulations. It also certifies and recognizes businesses of all types for meeting these rigorous environmental standards.

The Contra Costa Green Business Program has certified over 300 businesses throughout the county in the last 10 years. I commend the program's dedicated staff and volunteers who work diligently to show local businesses how they can be both green and profitable at the same time. By recommending a wide range of measures that help lessen greenhouse gas emissions and conserve resources, the Contra Costa Green Business Program is helping smaller businesses protect the climate in very meaningful ways.

I congratulate the Contra Costa Green Business Program for its dedicated work on this special occasion, and I send my best wishes for many future successes over the next 10 years.●

TRIBUTE TO REBECCA WOOD WATKIN

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am pleased and honored to salute my dear friend Rebecca "Becky" Wood Watkin as she celebrates her 95th birthday.

Born on April 4, 1913, in Portland, OR, Becky graduated from Bryn Mawr College in 1933 and went on to the University of Pennsylvania to study architecture. Undeterred by the fact that the Architecture Department did not accept female students at that time, Becky completed all required courses and became the first woman graduate in architecture from the University of Pennsylvania in 1937. That same year, Becky relocated to San Francisco and applied at a variety of architectural firms, none of which wanted a woman in the drafting room. Despite her difficulties with finding employment in the male-dominated workforce, Becky persevered, earning her California architectural license in 1944.